

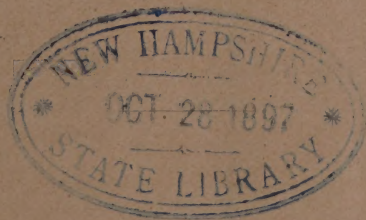


The Rutland Press,
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CONCORD, N. H.

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF
GILSUM, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1883.



KEENE :
SENTINEL PRINTING COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1885.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of Gilsum submit the following statement of receipts and disbursements for the year ending March 1, 1885:

INVOICE OF TOWN APRIL, 1884.

213 polls,	\$ 21,300 00
9939 acres,	169,442 00
144 horses,	11,692 00
68 oxen,	4,660 00
163 cows,	5,015 00
94 neat,	2,248 00
480 sheep,	1,121 00
1 hog,	12 00
24 carriages,	1,511 00
Value of stock in public funds,	3,100 00
Stock in banks,	6,500 00
Money at interest,	24,758 00
Stock in trade,	40,611 00
Factories, mills and machinery,	23,200 00
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	\$315,170 00

APPROPRIATIONS.

The following were the appropriations at the annual meeting in March, 1884, with assessments required by law:

For support of schools,	\$1,000 00
interest on school fund,	20 00
support of highways in money,	150 00
town charges	200 00
reservoir,	100 00
new cemetery,	15 00
county tax,	580 22
overlay and fractions lost in making taxes,	77 82
non-resident highway tax,	35 58
tax on 41 dogs,	46 00
school house tax in Union district with per- centage added,	1,024 59
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	\$3,249 21

Amount committed to S. L. Kingsbury, Collector.

Rate of taxation on \$100, \$0.68.

Town raised for support of highways in labor, \$800 00.

SCHOOL MONEY FOR 1884.

Town raised for support of schools,	\$1,000 00
Literary money not expended in 1883,	13 24
Literary money in treasury, less 1-5, \$14 38,	57 53
Leaving \$14 38 of the literary money; which may be expended by the Selectmen and Superin- tending School Committee for maps, charts, etc., for schools.	
Interest of school fund,	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,090 77
Equally by districts, \$545.38; by scholar, \$272.69; by val- uation, \$272.69.	

District.	Reduced Valuation.	Scholars.	Amount by Scholars.	Equally.	By Valuation.	Total to each. District.
No. 1	\$81.84	24	\$41.16	\$77.92	\$14.16	\$133.24
Union	1,113.77	78	133.77	155.82	192.74	482.33
3	130.05	12	20.58	77.91	22.50	121.00
4	126.47	21	36.01	77.91	21.89	135.81
5	62.49	22	37.73	77.91	10.81	126.45
6	61.23	2	3.44	77.91	10.59	91.94
	\$1,575.85	159	\$272.69	\$545.38	\$272.69	\$1,090.77

PAID FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, Isaac Knight,	\$ 86 00.	Due, \$49 04*
Union, A. D. Hammond,	367 28	
E. D. Banks,	118 65	
District No. 3, B. H. Britton,	122 80	
“ 4, J. Q. Pickering,	139 33	Overdrawn, \$1.72.
“ 5, E. A. Howard,	128 25	
“ 6, W. L. Isham,	66 25	Due, 27 49
	<u>\$1,028 56</u>	<u>\$76 53</u>

* Including literary, \$1.80.

Paid Allen Hayward, for money paid into the treasury from sale of district No. 2 school house, \$ 173 46
 Union district, part school house tax, 1,000 00

TOWN OFFICERS ENDING MARCH, 1884.

Paid O. J. Willson, selectman,	\$56 00
E. D. Banks, selectman,	36 00
F. A. Howard, selectman,	41 25
D. W. Bill, supervisor,	3 00
J. J. Isham, supervisor,	4 50
Daniel Wright, supervisor,	5 25

Paid George C. Hubbard, auditor,	\$1 00
William B. Adams, auditor,	1 00
L. W. F. Mark, town clerk,	16 25
A. D. Hammond, town treasurer,	15 00
S. W. Dart, superintending school committee.	23 25
N. O. Hayward, committee on water works,	18 00
S. C. Gates, sexton,	6 25
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	\$226 75

COUNTY PAUPERS.

Mrs. D. J. Chapin, for aid to Oliver C. Beckwith,	
from Feb. 26, 1884, to Oct. 21, 1884,	\$34 00
for aid to Mrs. Orinda Metcalf to Aug. 28, 1884,	26 42
J. A. Smith, aid to Mrs. James Davis, from April	
term until Oct. 21, 1884,	29 00
F. A. Howard, for cash paid for cutting and splitting	
wood for J. S. Bingham,	2 50
N. O. Hayward, one cord of wood to J. S. Bingham,	3 00
S. W. Dart, wood to Sarah Jane Corey,	6 76
S. W. Dart, wood to Joseph S. Bingham,	7 31
W. B. Adams, wood to Joseph S. Bingham,	78
	<hr/>
	\$109 77

TOWN PAUPERS.

Paid F. A. Howard, for aid furnished Mrs. Mary M.	
Nash, from May 26, 1884 to Mar. 2, 1885,	\$81 00
F. A. Howard, cash paid for keeping tramps over	
night,	3 50
	<hr/>
	\$84 50

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Robert Cuthbert, for firemen,	\$104 50
Geo. B. Rawson, chief fireward, for services	
and cash paid,	7 23
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	\$111 73

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid C. W. Rawson, work on highway,	\$3 50
John C. Guillo, work on highway,	7 43
E. D. Banks, work on highway,	3 70
W. A. Wilder, work on highway,	19 36
Jehiel White, building 13 rods new road,	65 00
J. E. Bridge, working non-resident highway taxes, 1884,	20 70
E. H. Howard, work on highway,	4 75
J. L. Pickering, work on highway,	1 65
F. A. Howard, work and cash paid for labor,	4 79
S. W. Dart, lumber and labor,	5 41
C. L. Mansfield, lumber and labor on Roundy bridge,	3 98
Chas. A. Bates, working non-resident highway taxes,	8 28
William B. Adams, bridge plank,	28 57
B. H. Britton, work on highway,	22 85
G. W. Newman, lumber for bridges,	9 78
John J. Isham, work on highways,	28 40
William L. Isham, work on highways,	5 48
Fred Weston, work on highways,	2 72
A. D. Hammond, spikes and powder for high- ways,	5 53
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	\$251 88

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid Sentinel Printing Company, printing 250 town reports,	\$19 00
C. W. Rawson, additional land damages,	20 50
S. L. Kingsbury, additional land damages,	13 00
Mrs. Benj. Corey, land damages on new road,	20 00
Mrs. E. B. Mack, land damages on new road,	1 00
Mrs. Martha Horton, for gravel bank,	17 50
George H. McCoy, services as undertaker,	17 50

Paid S. L. Kingsbury, wood and cutting wood for town hall,	\$4 00
A. D. Hammond, money borrowed of Keene Five Cents Savings Bank,	201 70
Jehiel White, for damages by dogs to sheep,	35 00
George H. McCoy, repairing road scraper,	1 50
S. W. Dart, building reservoir,	30 00
E. R. Carpenter, work on drills, chains, &c.,	2 65
County tax,	580 22
State tax,	772 00
Jehiel White, damages to wagon on highway,	5 00
F. A. Howard, bounties paid on 321 woodchucks,	32 10
O. J. Willson, bounties paid on 135 woodchucks,	13 50
E. D. Banks, bounties paid on 39 woodchucks,	3 90
Hiram Blake, abatement of S. W. Dart's tax and cost,	44 41
Batchelder & Faulkner, services in S. W. Dart's case and retaining fee,	65 00
Town's witnesses in S. W. Dart's case vs. town,	24 18
Citizens National Bank, for money borrowed,	703 85
W. H. Spalter, stationery, &c.,	6 63
L. W. F. Mark, reporting 28 births, 6 marriages, 16 deaths,	7 30
M. Perkins, reporting one birth,	25
I. A. Loveland, reporting 15 births, 4 deaths,	4 75
K. D. Webster, reporting 14 births, 10 deaths,	6 00
S. L. Kingsbury, non-resident highway tax receipts,	4 75
S. L. Kingsbury, collector for 1884,	30 00
N. O. Hayward, one cord for town hall,	3 50
John A. Smith, oil and chimneys for town hall,	5 55
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	\$2,696 24

RECAPITULATION.

Paid school districts,	\$1,028 56
union district,	1,173 46
town officers,	226 75
county paupers,	109 77
town paupers,	84 50
fire department,	111 73
highways and bridges,	251 88
Miscellaneous,	2,696 24
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	\$5,682 89

LIABILITIES OF TOWN, MARCH 1, 1885.

Estimated amount due town officers,	\$225 00
Estimated cost to print town reports,	16 00
Estimated amount due outstanding notes,	220 00
Due school districts,	76 53
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	\$537 53

ASSETS.

Due from county,	\$20 35
Due from State for bounties paid on 312 wood- chucks killed since June 25, 1884,	31 20
Taxes in hands of Collector, 1884, (Union school house tax due, \$24 22)	121 30
Money in treasury March 1, 1885,	306 51
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	\$479 36
Estimated indebtedness of the town,	\$58 17

All of which is respectfully submitted.

OSCAR J. WILLSON,

FRANCIS A. HOWARD,

Selectmen of Gilsum.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1885.

1884.			
March	1.	Money in treasury,	\$ 236 83
"	14.	Received of I. A. Loveland, committee on town hall,	5 72
April	9.	Received of Selectmen, money from county for the support of O. C. Beckwith and Mrs. Metcalf,	98 42
"	"	Received of Selectmen, money from county for the support of Mrs. J. Davis,	53 00
"	"	Received of Selectmen, borrowed of Keene Five Cents Savings Bank,	200 00
July	5.	Received of G. W. Newman, highway surveyor for 1883,	14 10
Sept.	24.	Received of Selectmen, bounties paid by the state up to June 25, 1884,	20 00
Dec.	1.	Received of Selectmen, money from Citizens National Bank,	700 00
1885.			
Jan.	5.	Received of Selectmen, savings bank tax for 1884,	1,310 68
"	"	Received of selectmen, literary fund, for 1884,	89 04
Feb.	12.	Received of school district No. 2,	173 46
"	"	Received of S. L. Kingsbury, collector for 1883,	34 65

Feb. 12.	Received of S. L. Kingsbury, collector for 1884,	\$3,053 00
" "	Received of S. W. Dart, collector for 1878,	50
		<hr/>
	Whole amount received,	\$5,989 40
	Paid out by orders of Selectmen in 1884,	5,682 89
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	Balance in treasury March 1, 1885,	\$306 51

A. D. HAMMOND, *Treasurer.*

We, the undersigned, auditors, chosen by the town of Gilsum to examine and audit the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of said town, have attended to that duty, and believe said accounts to be correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN S. COLLINS.

REPORT

OF

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1885.

The number of children between the ages of five and fifteen, as reported by the Selectmen, April, 1884, is as follows: boys, 56; girls, 58; total, 114.

Money raised by vote of town,	\$1,000 00
Literary fund not expended in 1883,	13 24
Four-fifths literary fund for 1884,	57 53
Interest on school fund,	20 00

\$1,090 77

Divided as follows: one-half by schools, one-fourth by scholars, and one-fourth by valuation.

District.	Prudential Committees.	* No. of Scholars.	Prop. of School Money.	Prop. to each Scholar.	Unexpended.
1	Isaac Knight.	5	\$133.24	\$26.65	\$47.24
3	Benj. H. Britton.	10	121.00	12.10	
4	J. Q. Pickering.	16	135.81	8.49	5.23
5	E. A. Howard.	26	126.45	4.86	2.33
6	Wm. L. Isham.	2	91.94	45.97	30.33
Union. }	A. D. Hammond.				
	Wm. B. Adams.	90	482.33	5.36	
	E. D. Banks.				

* No scholars except actual residents are reckoned in this table. Those who attended the school, but were enrolled as scholars in other districts in town are not considered.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

NUMBER ONE.

First term taught by Miss Hattie A. Wright; second term by Miss Ethel M. Porter. Both young teachers, but faithful and diligent in their work.

NUMBER TWO—UNION DISTRICT.

During the construction of the new school building in Union district, the schools were continued in the old houses in districts number two and seven, as usual. First term in number two taught by Miss Effie L. Rawson, who fully sustained her reputation as a good teacher. The school at the commencement appeared restless, and not inclined to take hold of the work before them cheerfully, but by good management on the part of the teacher, things were soon running smoothly, and the closing examination showed that good improvement had been made.

Miss Nellie M. Atwood, of Acworth, teacher of second term, kept the school fully up to the standard of excellence which we always expect when she is teacher. This term was very much interrupted by sickness, it being thought necessary to close the school for a few weeks near the middle of the term; it also made the attendance very irregular.

NUMBER THREE.

This district has all the elements for a good school, except numbers. More pupils of the same kind than they now have would make the school more interesting. The parents all take an active interest in the school, the scholars make it their business to learn, and they generally succeed in securing the services of faithful and competent teachers. The first term was taught by Miss Eva Lebourveau, of Keene. This was her first school; she has the elements for a good teacher, but needs more preparation for her work before she

can be fully successful. Second term taught by Miss Mary E. Wright, of Keene. Miss Wright is a well qualified and energetic teacher. The closing examination showed that a good amount of thorough and practical work had been done.

NUMBER FOUR.

Both terms in this district were taught by Miss Nellie M. Holden of Nashua. Your committee visited the school twice during each term, but was not notified of the closing of the second term, and of course was not present at the final examination, which was very much regretted, as there was a fine class of large pupils, who would have made an examination very interesting. A little more attention to strict discipline, and the *practical* part of teaching, would make Miss H. one of our best teachers.

NUMBER FIVE.

First term taught by Miss Ethel M. Porter. The teacher did not accomplish so good a work as your committee had reason to expect at the commencement of the term, partly on account of a lack of discipline and also from ill feeling among members of the district.

Second term of ten weeks, taught by Mr. John P. Willey, was a very successful term. Mr. W. is a practical and energetic teacher, and brought the school under good discipline—the progress was very satisfactory.

NUMBER SIX.

There has been but one term in this district during the year; this was taught by Miss Nellie M. Holden of Nashua, with good success. The pupils in this school were nearly all *imported*, only two properly belonging to the district. A family moved into the district near the last of the term, but the scholars had all been enrolled as such in another district in town during the year. The school was much more interesting for having pupils from other districts.

NUMBER SEVEN—UNION DISTRICT.

Miss May E. Thompson of Nashua, teacher of the first term, was a very thorough, hard-working teacher, and infused her own spirit into her pupils. The closing examination was especially interesting, showing, on the part of the pupils, a thorough understanding of what they had passed over in their studies.

Miss Ida Emerson of Marlboro', teacher of the second term, was very similar to her predecessor in energy and spirit in the school room, but her desire to have her pupils appear well, prompted her to aid them too much in their recitations. It was, however, a successful and profitable term. The same remarks in regard to sickness, as were made of the second term in No. 2, are applicable here.

UNION DISTRICT.

The Grammar school under the instruction of Mr. J. P. Willey, showed at the closing examination a commendable improvement in all the studies, especially the classes in arithmetic, which showed thorough and practical drill. Good order was maintained throughout the term. Your committee felt very sorry that so many of the pupils were absent at the closing examination. It is hoped that causes beyond their control kept them away.

The Primary school, in charge of Miss Nellie M. Atwood of Acworth, was a success in every respect. Miss Atwood is peculiarly adapted to a school of this character. Her methods of instruction and management are excellent, and the scholars were kept thoroughly interested till the close of the term.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

District.	NAME OF TEACHER.	Wages per month including board.	No. of weeks.	No. of Scholars.	Average attendance.	Not absent one-half day.	Tardiness.	Reading.	Spelling.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Physiology.	Book-keeping.	Algebra.	Visits by S. S. Com.	Visits by citizens and others.	Roll of Honor.
1	Hattie A. Wright.	\$18.00	7.8	4	4	3		4	4	3	3	2						2	18	3
Union.	Effie Lee Rawson.	32.00	9	40	36	21	9	40	40	31	31	18	7		2			2	26	21
3	Eva Lebourveau.	18.00	8	5	5	5		5	5	5	5	2	2	2				2	8	5
4	Nellie M. Holden.	24.00	7.8	12	11	5	4	12	12	5	12	5	6	3	1		2	2	22	5
5	Ethel M. Porter.	26.00	6	22	21	9	1	22	22	3	16	10	2			1		2	16	9
Union.	May E. Thompson.	32.00	7	26	22	12	1	26	26		19	10	10					2	18	12

FALL AND WINTER SCHOOLS.

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District.	NAME OF TEACHER.	Wages per month, including board.	No. of weeks.	No. of Scholars.	Average attendance.	Not absent one-half day.	Tardiness.	Reading.	Spelling.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Physiology.	Book-keeping.	Algebra.	Composition.	Visits by S. S. Com.	Visits by citizens and others.	Roll of Honor.
1	Ethel M. Porter.	\$20.00	9.8	9	8	1	4	9	9	8	8	3							2	24	1
2	Nellie M. Atwood.	32.00	8	40	33	11	5	40	40	31	40	38	4		2		1		2	14	11
3	Mary E. Wright.	22.00	16	10	9.86	5		10	10	10	10	4	6	5		2			2	19	6
4	Nellie M. Holden.	26.00	11.8	13	13.12		15	16	16		16	6	6	2	4	1	2		2	23	
5	John P. Willey.	30.00	10	24	19.76	5	10	24	24	11	20	20	2	8		2		7	2	16	5
6	Nellie M. Holden.	26.00	9	13	8.2	2	9	13	13	3	11	5	5	2	2		1		2	23	2
7	Ida M. Emerson.	32.00	7.8	33	24	6	11	31	24	20	24	10	8		1				3	15	6
8	Nellie M. Atwood.	32.00	10.8	38	31	3	3	38	38	38	38	38							3	64	3
9	John P. Willey.	32.00	11	32	28.6	4	10	32	32	28	32	13	19	6	2	5	2	20	3	54	4

GENERAL REMARKS.

Few towns in the State with the same number of inhabitants appropriate more liberally for school purposes than this. The voters certainly show both good sense and patriotism in voting cheerfully everything necessary for the welfare of our common schools. But our whole duty to our schools does not end here, although quite too many act as though it did. Choose your Prudential Committee with as much care as you would any officer in town. Make frequent visits to the school room, furnish your children *cheerfully* with all needed text books, show an interest in their studies, by inquiries in regard to their lessons, and finding out each night what new thing has been learned during the day, propose questions, relating to their studies, not found in the text books, and in a variety of ways you can show your children that you are interested in their work at school. I am not one of those who believe that too much money cannot be spent for schools; a surfeit of anything, however good, makes it distasteful.

With a right combination of our districts, the amount of money we now appropriate for schools will give us as much schooling in a year as is desirable. This work has been begun the past year by the long talked of union of districts numbers two and seven, and a portion of number one, and it is hoped that the work will continue until the whole town will secure longer and better schools, for the very liberal amount of money they are now spending at a disadvantage. In many instances children are sent to school too young. Nearly all children who do not commence their school life till seven years of age, will be better scholars at fifteen than if they commenced at four; physical, rather than mental training should take precedence at this age. Very young children are often sent to school, more to be relieved of their care, than for any good they are expected to receive.

The summer and fall terms in Union district were held in the old school buildings in districts two and seven, while awaiting the completion of their fine new school building, costing more than \$2,500, containing two spacious school rooms, connected by sliding walls, that both rooms may be used as one if desired. There is a large basement room the size of the entire building, containing a large furnace for heating the school rooms. The rooms are well ventilated, and have a good supply of blackboards, maps and charts. Most of the districts in town have, during the year, furnished their schools with an excellent set of charts, treating on a variety of subjects; their usefulness, of course, depends mainly upon the teacher. If they are allowed to hang in the rooms unused, they will be of little advantage.

When the pupils in Union district occupied their new school rooms, they were graded as well as circumstances at the time permitted, but it can undoubtedly be improved upon in the future. The progress of the schools in this district has been very much retarded by sickness among the scholars in the community; the schools were stopped for several weeks on this account, and through fear on the part of parents, the attendance has been very irregular.

The amendment to the law relating to text books, placing physiology and hygiene (treating in a special manner of the effects of alcoholic drinks and narcotics upon the human system) among the studies previously named in the law, went into effect March 1, 1884. As many of our teachers had little or no knowledge of the subject it was recommended by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be indulgent in the examinations this year, but hereafter, to require an adequate knowledge of the subject, so far as it is taught. As text books on the subject have been constantly coming into market, no formal adoption has been made; it was thought best to defer the matter until several works adapted to the new law could be examined. A work by

O. M. Brands, published by Leach, Shewell & Sanborn, of 87 Franklin street, Boston, has been used in the schools the past year, and I believe it to be as well adapted to our common schools as any I have examined ; but I leave this with my successor.

The more I examine this subject, the more I believe in the wisdom of placing this amendment among the laws of the State. We all know that the use of alcoholic drinks brings terrible perils to the Commonwealth. Why then is it not our duty to teach our children the effects of these ensnaring and dangerous drinks upon the brain, upon the blood, and upon the health and body of mind. Childhood is the time to teach these truths. It is certainly as important that our children should make sober citizens as that they should have a knowledge of arithmetic and geography. When we are about to ascend a ladder we first make sure the foot stand firm ; this is quite as important as that the ladder itself should be strong. So in ascending the ladder of learning, if the foot does not stand firm on the solid ground of good principles and good habits, we are very likely to fall, however strong the ladder itself may be.

GEO. C. HUBBARD,

Supt. School Committee.

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